Missouri River Interagency Roundtable Meeting (MRBIR) Meeting Summary

July 17, 2013 Kansas City, Missouri

Executive Summary

The Missouri River Interagency Roundtable (MRBIR), chaired by Colonel John Kem, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), met at the Richard Bolling Federal Building in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 17, 2013. Missouri River Basin executives or their alternates, representing eleven federal agencies, attended the meeting along with Planning Committee (PC) members and staff. The meeting was facilitated by Sarah Palmer of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (U.S. Institute), and meeting notes were prepared by Mitch Chrismer (U.S. Institute). The meeting agenda is provided in Appendix A.

A main purpose of the meeting was for agency executives to brief one another on Basin agency programs, projects, and recent activities occurring in the Missouri River Basin since the group met last in January 2013. The group also focused on how FY13 and FY14 budgets are impacting Missouri River programs, and heard a report on Missouri River sediment for the purpose of finalizing a federal position paper on this issue. A public informational briefing from America's Watershed Initiative was held at this meeting, and the group heard a report on the current status of the Missouri River water management and an update on drought and the impacts to community water supply. The MRBIR group also reviewed the MRBIR FY13/FY14 Priorities and Goals, and attended to future MRBIR operations.

Updates from MRBIR committees included: (1) a report from the Tribal-Federal Relations Committee; (2) a report on the Missouri River Basin Soil Health Initiative from the PC ecosystems function topic team; (3) a report on Missouri River sediment made by the PC sediment topic team; and (4) a briefing from the climate collaboration topic team regarding next steps regarding the proposal to expand plains snow and basin conditions monitoring. The MRBIR executives discussed what topics and tasks within each respective topic are a priority for the teams to work on over the next six months. See Appendix B to this Executive Summary for the updated MRBIR work plan as of July 12, 2013.

Agreements Reached:

Executives agreed:

- To further refine the draft sediment position paper prior to its signing;
- To hear about government to government consultation possibly via a fall webinar;
- To hold the next MRBIR Meeting in January 2014, in Omaha, NE.